

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 NEW DE 05368 061750Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----020360 070558Z /13

R 061312Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 733

S E C R E T NEW DELHI 5368

EXDIS

FOR NEA/INS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS:PPDC, IN
SUBJECT:PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER OF MARCH 27 TO PRESIDENT CARTER

REF: STATE 086185

1. A CLOSE READING OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER TRANSMITTED REFTEL LEFT US SOMEWHAT PUZZLED OVER MEANING OF TWO SENTENCES. SPECIFICALLY, WE WRE NOT CLEAR WHAT WASMEANT BY PHRASE QUOTE HAVE NOT GONE DOWN UNQUOTE IN FOURTH SENTENCE OF SECOND PARAGRAPH. WE WERE ALSO NOT COMPLETELY SURE WHAT PRIME MINISTER WAS REFERRING TO IN FIRST SENTENCE OF THIRD PARAGRAPH.

2. DCM ASKED MEA JOINT SECRETARY ASRANI THIS MORNING IF HE COULD HELP IN CLARIFYING THESE SECTIONS OF THE LETTER.

3. ASRANI SAID EXPRESSION QUOTE HAVE NOT GONE DOWN UNQUOTE WAS INTENDED TO MEAN QUOTE HAVE NOT PERCOLATED DOWN UNQUOTE. IN OTHER WORDS, THE PRIME MINISTER MEANT THAT UNFORTUNATELY THE EFFORTS OF THE TWO PINCIPALS TO ESTABLISH GREATER MUTUAL CONFIDENCE HAVE NOT BEEN REFLECTED IN SUCH DEVELOPMENTS AS THE NRC'S DELAY IN ACTING ON THE
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TARAPUR SHIPMENT AND THE PUBLIC CONTROVERSY ON THE NUCLEAR ISSUE IN BOTH COUNTRIES.

4. ASRANI CONFIRMED OUR SUSPICION THAT THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THE THIRD PARAGRAH DID REFER TO THE DISCUSSON OF THE NEUTRON BOMB IN THE PRESIDENT'S LAST LETTER.
GOHEEN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 06 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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